

Remarks

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the present application in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks. With entry of this amendment, claims 1, 2, 4, 35-41, 44, and 46-53 are pending in the application. Claims 1, 40, and 51 are independent. Claims 1, 2, 35, 36, 38, 40, 41, 44, 46, 47, 49, and 51-53 have been amended. Claim 3 has been canceled.

Cited Art

The Examiner cites:

Eid *et al.*, U.S. Patent Publication No. 2004/0190771 (hereinafter "Eid");

Denk *et al.*, U.S. Patent Publication No. 2001/0025292 (hereinafter "Denk");

M68000 8-/16-/32-Bit Microprocessors: Programmer's Reference Manual, 1986, fifth edition, page B-35, ISBN: 0-13-541491-1, Publisher: Prentice-Hall (hereinafter "Motorola");

Lundberg *et al.*, U.S. Patent Publication No. 2004/0183949 (hereinafter "Lundberg");

FOURCC.org - YUV Formats, <http://www.fourcc.org/yuv.php>, pages 1-15 (hereinafter "FOURCC.org"); and

Reitmeier *et al.*, U.S. Patent Publication No. 2003/0202589 (hereinafter "Reitmeier").

Request for Information Disclosure Statement to be Reviewed

Applicants note that the Action does not include an initialed copy of the Form 1449 which accompanied an Information Disclosure Statement filed on August 6, 2008. Applicants request the Examiner provide an initialed copy of the Form 1449.

Interview Summary

Applicants' representatives conducted a telephonic interview with Examiner Amin and his supervisory Examiner on November 25, 2008. The Examiners indicated tentative agreement to the proposed amendments in view of the cited prior art. Applicants thank the Examiners for their time.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 101

Claims 51-53 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101 because the claimed invention is allegedly directed to non-statutory subject matter. Applicants respectfully disagree, but in the interest of expediency Applicants have amended independent claim 51 to recite one or more computer readable **storage** media. Applicants have also amended the specification to conform to this amendment. Independent claim 51 and its dependent claims 52 and 53 should now be allowable under § 101, and Applicants respectfully request such action.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 1, 2, 35, 39-41, and 46-53 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Eid, Denk, and Motorola. Claim 4 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Eid, Denk, Motorola, and Lundberg. Claims 38 and 44 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Eid, Denk, Motorola, and FOURCC.org. Claims 36 and 37 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Eid, Denk, Motorola, and Reitmeier. The rejections are traversed.

Claims 1, 2, 35, 39-41, and 46-53 are Allowable Over Eid, Denk, and Motorola

Amended independent claims 1 and 51 recite, in part:

converting the n-bit representation to a lower-precision (n-m)-bit representation by splitting the fractional component into a first portion comprising m least significant bits of the fractional component wherein m is less than 8, and further splitting the fractional component into a second portion comprising 8-m most significant bits of the fractional component, and assigning zero values to the first portion of the fractional component while the values and the specific positions of the values of the integer component and the second portion of the fractional component are unchanged.

Amended independent claim 40 recites, in part:

converting the n-bit representation to a lower-precision (n-m)-bit representation by splitting the fractional component into a first portion comprising m least significant bits of the fractional component wherein m is less than 8, and further splitting the fractional component into a second portion comprising 8-m most significant bits of the fractional component, and assigning zero values to the first portion of the fractional component while the values and the specific positions of the values of the integer component and the second portion of the fractional component are unchanged.

Eid, Denk, and Motorola do not teach or suggest the above recited language of amended independent claims 1, 40, and 51. Specifically, Eid, Denk, and Motorola do not teach or suggest "assigning zero values to the first portion of the fractional component while the values and the specific positions of the values of the integer component and the second portion of the fractional component are unchanged" as recited in amended independent claims 1, 40, and 51.

The Examiner states that "[t]he combination of Eid and Denk discloses shifting and rounding operations, **but they do not explicitly teach to assign zero values to one or more least significant bits in the fractional component without changing the integer component**." (Action, pages 4 and 9.) Applicants agree that neither Eid nor Denk teach or suggest the above recited language.

However, the Examiner alleges that Motorola cures this deficiency in Eid and Denk, and further alleges that Motorola describes a CLR command which could be applied to a least significant byte, "which corresponds to the fractional component of the higher precision representations, [such that the least significant byte] could be assigned zero values and converted to the lower precision representation; it should be noted that the limitation of assigning zero values to one or more least significant bits is broad enough to be interpreted as assigning zero values to the least significant byte." (*Id.*)

Applicants submit, however, that Motorola specifically states that "[t]he desitination is cleared to all zero. **The size of the operation may be specified to be byte, word, or long.**" (Motorola, "Description". Emphasis added.) Thus, the smallest unit on which Motorola is operable is a byte. Motorola is therefore clearly not operable to assign zero values to a unit **smaller than a byte**. Thus, Motorola would not be enabled to, and therefore does not teach or suggest, "assigning zero values to the first portion of the fractional component [which comprises m least significant bits of the fractional component where m is less than 8] while **the values and the specific positions of the values of the integer component and the second portion of the fractional component [comprising the remaining 8-m most significant bits of the fractional component] are unchanged**" as recited in amended independent claims 1, 40, and 51. Thus, Motorola does not cure the above recited deficiencies in Eid and Denk.

Because Eid, Denk, and Motorola do not teach or suggest each and every element of amended independent claims 1, 40, and 51, claim 1, 40, and 51 are allowable over Eid, Denk,

and Motorola. Dependent claims 2, 35, 39, 41, 46-50, 52, and 53 are allowable at least because they depend from amended claim 1. Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the § 103(a) rejections and allowance of claims 1, 2, 35, 39-41, and 46-53.

Dependent Claim 4 is Allowable Over Eid in View of Denk, Motorola, and Lundberg

As described above, claim 1 is allowable because Eid, Denk, and Motorola, whether considered separately or in combination with each other, do not teach or suggest each and every element of amended claim 1. Lundberg does not cure the above recited deficiencies of Eid, Denk, or Motorola with regard to the above recited language of amended claim 1. Specifically, at no point does Lundberg teach or suggest "assigning zero values to the first portion of the fractional component [which comprises m least significant bits of the fractional component where m is less than 8] while **the values and the specific positions of the values of the integer component and the second portion of the fractional component [comprising the remaining 8-m most significant bits of the fractional component] are unchanged**" as recited in amended independent claim 1, nor does the Examiner cite Lundberg for that purpose.

Thus, Eid, Denk, Motorola, and Lundberg, whether considered separately or in combination with one another, do not teach or suggest each and every element of amended claim 1. Claim 1 is therefore allowable over Eid, Denk, Motorola and Lundberg. Dependent claim 4 is allowable at least because it depends from claim 1. Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the § 103(a) rejection and allowance of dependent claim 4.

Dependent Claims 36 and 37 are Allowable Over Eid in View of Denk, Motorola, and Reitmeier

As described above, claim 1 is allowable because Eid, Denk, and Motorola, whether considered separately or in combination with each other, do not teach or suggest each and every element of amended claim 1. Reitmeier does not cure the above recited deficiencies of Eid, Denk, or Motorola with regard to the above recited language of amended claim 1. Specifically, at no point does Reitmeier teach or suggest "assigning zero values to the first portion of the fractional component [which comprises m least significant bits of the fractional component where m is less than 8] while **the values and the specific positions of the values of the integer component and the second portion of the fractional component [comprising the remaining**

8-m most significant bits of the fractional component] are unchanged" as recited in amended independent claim 1, nor does the Examiner cite Reitmeier for that purpose.

Thus, Eid, Denk, Motorola, and Reitmeier, whether considered separately or in combination with one another, do not teach or suggest each and every element of amended claim 1. Claim 1 is therefore allowable over Eid, Denk, Motorola and Reitmeier. Dependent claims 36 and 37 are allowable at least because they depend from amended claim 1. Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the § 103(a) rejections and allowance of dependent claims 36 and 37.

Dependent claims 38 and 44 are Allowable Over Eid in View of Denk, Motorola, and FOURCC.org

As described above, amended independent claims 1 and 40, from which dependent claims 38 and 44 respectively depend, are allowable because Eid, Denk, and Motorola, whether considered separately or in combination with each other, do not teach or suggest each and every element of amended independent claims 1 and 40. FOURCC.org does not cure the above recited deficiencies of Eid, Denk, or Motorola with regard to the above recited language of amended independent claims 1 and 40. Specifically, at no point does FOURCC.org teach or suggest "assigning zero values to the first portion of the fractional component [which comprises m least significant bits of the fractional component where m is less than 8] while **the values and the specific positions of the values of the integer component and the second portion of the fractional component [comprising the remaining 8-m most significant bits of the fractional component] are unchanged"** as recited in amended independent claims 1 and 40, nor does the Examiner cite FOURCC.org for that purpose.

Thus, Eid, Denk, Motorola, and FOURCC.org, whether considered separately or in combination with one another, do not teach or suggest each and every element of amended independent claims 1 and 40. Claims 1 and 40 are therefore allowable over Eid, Denk, Motorola and FOURCC.org. Dependent claims 38 and 44 are allowable at least because they respectively depend from amended independent claims 1 and 40. Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the § 103(a) rejections and allowance of dependent claims 38 and 44.

Conclusion

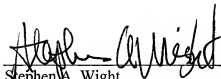
The claims in their present form should be allowable. Such action is respectfully requested. If the claims are not found by the Examiner to be allowable, the Examiner is requested to call the undersigned attorney to set up an interview to discuss this application.

Respectfully submitted,

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By

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Stephen A. Wight", is written over a horizontal line.

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